

1443

RAMADAN



AL AZAIM FOUNDATION
FOR MEDIA PRODUCTION

BAQIYAH

“

Baqiyah! despite your united attacks on it. Baqiyah! despite your sects, factions, armies and equipments. Baqiyah! despite your lethal, iron hammers against oursouls. Baqiyah! despite your wicked conspiracies. Baqiyah! despite your grudges and malignant, envious attitude towards us. Baqiyah! against your will. Allahu akbar!

Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-'Adnani (may Allah have mercy on him)

”



AL AZAIM FOUNDATION

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لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

الله
رسول
محمد

بيعة جنود الخلافة لأمير المؤمنين الشيخ أبي الحسن الهاشمي القرشي - حفظه الله تعالى -

شعبان 1443



KHURASAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

نبأيُّعُ أميرَ المؤمنينِ وَخَلِيفَةِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ
الشِّيخِ الْمُجَاهِدِ أَبِيِّ الْحَسَنِ الْهَاشَمِيِّ الْقَرْشَىِّ
حَفَظَهُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى السَّمْعِ وَالطَّاعَةِ فِي
الْمُنْشَطِ وَالْمُكَرَّهِ وَالْعُسْرِ وَالْيُسْرِ وَعَلَى أَثْرَةِ
عَلَيْنَا وَإِنْ لَا نَنْازِعَ الْأَمْرَ أَهْلَهُ إِلَّا أَنْ نَرَى
كُفَّارًا بِوَاحِدٍ عَنْدَنَا فِيهِ مِنَ اللَّهِ بُرْهَانٌ وَاللَّهُ
عَلَى مَا نَقُولُ شَهِيدٌ



BĀQIYĀH

Amir al-Muminin Abu 'Umar al-Baghdadi
(may Allah accept him) said:

"Rejoice, O soldiers of Allah! For indeed, I see that you have suffered and yet shown patience; you have been shaken but remained steadfast; you were shot at, but you stood up and did not bend; others united against you, but you united and did not split. So rejoice in the reward in the Hereafter and the victory in this world. This victory is approaching sooner than we had originally thought, and the enemy – in all its forms and types – admits that the period following the announcement of your plan: The Harvest of Good, has been the severest against them this year. It is no coincidence that the number of American dead is now so large they can no longer say, 'He was killed in a non-combat incident!' (...) It is only a matter of months before you will touch victory with your own hands and see it with your eyes, as you have seen it before, but purer, clearer, and firmer."

Yes – by Allah

the courageous leader spoke the truth (may Allah accept him). For verily, the Islamic State returned after the stage of scrutiny and trials, to the stage of victory and empowerment. We have seen victory and touched it, just as he said (may Allah accept him); where it extended into Sham and then returned stronger into Iraq and announced the Khilafah. And we think well of our Lord (jalla wa 'ala) that we will again achieve victory soon through the truthfulness of the group chosen by Allah to carry this trust forward after years of fierce war and after this [stage] of trial and selection and purification for the mujahidin. (...) For indeed, victory is but patience before the Hour, and the end belongs to the muttaqin; and all praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of 'alamin. (Editorial, an-Naba, no. 112)

[The Islamic State] is bāqiyāh! (i.e. will remain) because it has been built on the remnants of the shuhada (martyrs) and irrigated with their blood; and through it the marketplace for Paradise has been held. Bāqiyāh! because the assistance of Allah in this jihad has been more vivid than the sun in the middle of the sky. Bāqiyāh! because it has not been soiled with anything unlawful or a distorted methodology. Baqiyah! with the truthfulness of its leaders who have sacrificed their blood, and the truthfulness of its soldiers who built it with their efforts; we consider them as such, and Allah is their [final] judge. Bāqiyāh! because it is the place for solidarity among the mujahidin and the resort of the oppressed. Bāqiyāh! because Islam has started to rise, the clouds beginning to disperse, and kufr has started to be defeated and exposed. Bāqiyāh! because it is a response to the calls of the oppressed, the tears of the bereaved, the cry of the captives, and the hope of orphans. Bāqiyāh! because all the sects and parties of kufr have united against us; because those deviant cowards and traitors began to slander and defame it – and so we are certain about the sincerity of the goal and the validity of our path. Bāqiyāh! because we are confident that Allah will not disappoint the oppressed muwahhidin and will not allow the transgressors to rejoice at our afflictions. Bāqiyāh! because Allah, the Almighty, promises in His perfect Book saying:

"Allah has promised to those of you who believe and do good that He will surely make them to succeed (the present rulers) in the earth as He caused those who were before them to succeed (others); and that He will most certainly establish for them their din which He has chosen for them, and that He will most certainly, after their fear, give them security, in exchange they shall worship Me, not associating anything with Me; and whoever is ungrateful after this, those are the transgressors." (Shaykh Abu 'Umar al-Baghdadi, "The Harvest of the Years for the State of the Muwahhidin")

(...) to all the sects and colors of kufr from the malicious Jews and Crusaders, atheist secularists and communists, vicious mushrik Rafidah, and traitor apostates: the Islamic State of Iraq is bāqiyāh! Bāqiyāh! despite your united attacks on it. Bāqiyāh! despite your sects, factions, armies, and equipment. Bāqiyāh! despite your lethal, iron hammers against our souls. Bāqiyāh! despite your wicked plots and conspiracies. Bāqiyāh! despite your grudges and malignant, envious attitude toward us. Bāqiyāh!, against your will. Allahu akbar! Dignity and honor belong to Allah, His messenger, and the believers. And the end belongs to the muttaqin." (Shaykh Abu Muhammad al-'Adnani, "The Islamic State of 'Iraq Baqiyah")

My dear ummah, as we didn't lie to Allah when we declared the Islamic State, we don't lie to Allah when we say that it is bāqiyāh! Bāqiyāh! despite of all the opacity, deception, distortion, and slander. Bāqiyāh! despite of all the hardships, obstacles and testing, and despite of all intrigues of the enemies of Islam inside and abroad. Bāqiyāh! on its creed and methodology, and it won't change or deviate them, in sha Allah. Bāqiyāh! a land of hijrah and jihad. Bāqiyāh! a spear in the chests of the Safavid Rafidah. Bāqiyāh! and you will hear its news and see its actions. (Shaykh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, "Allah Refuses Except To Perfect His Light").

THE CRUSADE WAR





Wars comes in many form and targets different aspects of humans. A war can be fought militarily targeting physical self or it can be fought ideologically targeting intellect.

As much importance the physical clashes hold ideological confrontations also matter if not more. The physical battle can be lost even before it starts if people, in our case Muslims, are defeated or at the least trapped in the battle for the hearts and minds. Muslims today are in a complete battle against Crusaders and their allies which is fought militarily and intellectually.

The Crusaders of the West understood the importance of battle for the hearts and minds, and hasten to prepare to advance for confrontation in this front by opening their research centres, colleges and other forms of institutions. They funded thousands of people in the name of research for this alone and bought people who wear cloaks of Muslims. Think-tanks such as "RAND corporation" has wrote about these in more than a decade ago by outlining a framework that Crusader America should follow, which groups they should target to work hand in hand towards this intellectual Crusade. For this intellectual battle they suggested to recruit from groups like secularists and modernists in Muslim societies who are seemingly Muslims by being born to Muslim parents or any other way, and spread their filthy ideas using these agents.

The goals of this ideological battle is to try and counter the true Islamic ideology which Crusaders claim as "radical and dogmatic interpretations of Islam", and make sons of Islam follow the wishy-washy version of Islam that is against jihad, full implementation of Shari'ah and it's religious punishments. They make these things look unjust and says clashes with what they call human rights not knowing the fact that these things actually guarantees the rights of others in societies.

For instance if we look at the "Islamic" countries we can see their curriculum being changed to make till verses of jihad are even being removed to make it moderate and more acceptable to the West. One example of this is what's happening in Saudi Arabia. They changed their curriculum and is operating against jihad and true Islamic ideology under the name of counterterrorism centre in Riyadh under the watchful eyes of Crusader America.

Another goal of this battle for the hearts and minds is to remove al-wala' wal bara' (loyalty and disavowal for the sake of Allah) from the hearts of Muslims. Removing this foundation of the religion from the hearts of Muslims or lacking in this aspect will destroy our identity as Muslims and generation by generation make us turn away from the religion. Also, with this removed or Muslims compromising in this will in turn make it easier to spread other religions in the name of interfaith.

The Prophet (sallallah alaihi wasallam) said: "Do Jihad against the mushrikin with your wealth, souls and tongues." [narrated by Abu Dawud]. Jihad against the crusaders and their allies is the best way to deter them. Jihad is not limited to fighting physically, and fighting with tongues are as important as fighting physically. In this age, social media warfare holds the utmost importance as the medias and social media personalities are enchanting the eyes of the people. Fighting in this field needs to be done in order to incite the believers and save other Muslims from the negative impact of the enchanting battle for hearts and minds.



One thing Muslims should be aware of is the battle for hearts and minds not only targets one aspect, but it targets many aspects such as aqeedah of the Muslims, matters of fiqh, our dress code and even how we live in our daily lives. So to defend ourselves against this we have to strictly follow the guidance of Qur'an and the best example left for us by the Prophet (sallallah alaihi wasallam). This have to be based upon the understanding of the pious predecessors and understanding of the scholars of haqq.

Another way to defend from this intellectual crusade is to follow the jama'ah. The Shaitan and his allies attack the lone Muslim more than the whole group and is easier to be led astray as there will be no-one to clarify his doubts and counter weak plots and expose it.



In closing we remind the words of Shaykh Anwar al-awlaqi (rahimahullah): "The results in the realm of ideas, is more important than brothers and sisters, it is more important than the victories, of the Mujahideen in the battlefields. It is more important to talk about the methodology that they carry. Because when Allah Almighty talked about the people of the Trench in Surah al Burooj, they didn't win in the battlefield, they lost, and they were killed. The king, dug for them trenches and they were burnt alive. But because they held on fast to the truth, because they were steadfast, Allah Almighty said, "That is the great victory" So we should be more concerned, about what is in the hearts and minds of Muslims Rather than what happens on the battlefield!".

And what is the better reassurance for Muslims than the words of Allah (ta'ala) when he said: "Verily, those who disbelieve spend their wealth to hinder (men) from the Path of Allâh, and so will they continue to spend it; but in the end it will become an anguish for them. Then they will be overcome. And those who disbelieve will be gathered unto Hell." [Al-Anfal :36]



And the best outcome is for the righteous

In the name of Allah, the Lord of the Mankind. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon the Prophet (sallallah alaihi wasallam), his family, his companions and all those who follow the guidance in the best manner.

Allah Says:

﴿I did not create jinn and humans except to worship Me.﴾
[Adh-Dhariyat:56]

Allah created men and Jinn to worship him alone. Allah ordered them to single out Allah, in matters of worship. Allah forbade them from associating partners with him. Allah, honored man and preferred him over all his creation. Man was given the title of “Ashraf ul Makhloqat”, meaning the best of creation. Allah says: (And we created man in the best stature.) [At-Tin:4]

Allah created the heavens and earth, paradise and hell. Allah subjected his creation to his command. The sun, sky, moon, stars, plants all follow the commandments of Allah. Allah created the angels and they are devout in their obedience and worship to Allah. Allah, then created Adam(Alayhi salam) and gave him residence in his Paradise. Allah ordered the angels and jinn to prostrate to him, in respect. The angels obeyed except the shaitan, who refused to prostrate because of his pride and arrogance.

﴿And [mention] when We said to the angels, “Prostrate to Adam,” and they prostrated, except Iblees (the Shaitan); he refused.﴾ [Ta-Ha:116]

﴿[the Shaitan] said, “By Your might, I will surely mislead them all.”﴾ [Sad:82]

The Shaitan then asked Allah for respite till the Day of Judgement, and he was given respite. Iblees, the sworn enemy of Man, swore that he will mislead the slaves of Allah and will hinder them from the path of Islam. Thus, iblees attacked Adam, through whispers and false promises and lured him and his wife into disobeying Allah.

Then the Shaitan instigated him. (He said, O ‘Adam, shall I guide you to the tree of eternity and to an empire that does not decay?” So, both of them (‘Adam and Eve) ate from it, and their private parts were exposed to them, and they started stitching on themselves some of the leaves of Paradise. And ‘Adam disobeyed his Lord, and erred.) [Ta-Ha:120,121]

Adam was thus expelled from paradise. After sincere and thorough repentance, Allah forgave Adam and thus Adam settled on the earth. Adam and his wife Hawwa, had children and from their offspring were their sons Hābīl and Qābīl.

Adam lived his life according to the laws and limits set by Allah; the world was filled with prosperity and the best among the creatures of Allah inherited the earth. Allah appointed his Khalifah, Adam on the earth. However, as the Shaitan continued to pursue the children of Adam and the obedience to one's personal desires led to the first crime committed on earth by humans.

{And recite to them the story of Adam's two sons, in truth, when they both made an offering [to Allah], and it was accepted from one of them but was not accepted from the other. Said [the latter], "I will surely kill you." Said [the former], "Indeed, Allah only accepts from the righteous [who fear Him].} [Al-Ma'idah:27]

The evil prompting soul of Qābīl persuaded him to wrongly kill his brother, Hābīl. So, he killed him and because of that he became one of those who are losers in this world and the Afterlife. He set a bad example and will therefore bear that burden, as well as the burden of any person who does the same until the Day of Judgement, without any reduction in the burden of those who imitate him.

Allah created man, and Allah's knowledge encompasses everything. Allah knew that the children of Adam are weak and the Shaitan and his helpers will always try to sway man away from his duty towards his Lord. Allah decreed everything that was going to happen, including the actions of his slaves but Allah gave man choice and will in matters pertaining to religion. And among the biggest favours of Allah to his slaves is the sending of Messengers and scriptures for their guidance. Even though the children of Adam promised to worship Allah alone, everyone did not fulfil the promise.

{And 'remember' when your Lord brought forth from the loins of the children of Adam their descendants and had them testify regarding themselves. 'Allah asked, "Am I not your Lord?" They replied, "Yes, You are! We testify." 'He cautioned, "Now you have no right to say on Judgement Day, 'We were not aware of this.'} [Al-A'raf:172]

The Shaitan, the cursed enemy, was well aware of the fact that the mercy of Allah is vast and encompassing and he knew very well, that Allah does not forgive Major Shirk. So, the Shaitan, and his minions, gradually lured

mankind towards shirk and kufr and the gates of trials and tribulations were flung open. The earth was filled with corruption and fitan. As people spread through the earth, and different cultures and languages came into existence, they became more and more distant from their Lord except the few who clung on to the Path of Tawheed. As shirk was manifested on the earth, people started worshipping the dead saints and righteous people's graves became shrines where the rights of Allah were violated.



Allah sent messengers, and among the messengers of Allah, was Nuh (Alayhi Salam). Allah sent Nuh to his people with the message of Tawheed. He ordered them to single out Allah in lordship and make their worship sincerely to him alone.

{Verily, We sent Nûh (Noah) to his people (saying): "Warn your people before there comes to them a painful torment."} [Nuh:1]

The people of Nuh, refused to obey him except a few. They were obstinate in their shirk. They defied the commandments of Allah and set up rivals to Allah. They worshipped idols, and the rich chiefs among them not only refused to obey Nuh (Alayhi Salam) but they hindered others as well from the straight Path,

{“And they have said: ‘You shall not leave your gods: nor shall you leave Wadd, nor Suwâ’, nor Yaghûth, nor Ya’ûq nor Nasr’ (these are the names of their idols).} [Nuh:23]

Thus, the battlefield was set, the battle between Iman and Kufr, Islam and Shirk, truth and falsehood. A battle which continues till date and will continue until the Day of Judgement.

{And recite to them the news of Nûh (Noah). When he said to his people: "O my people, if my stay (with you), and my reminding (you) of the Ayât (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) of Allâh is hard on you, then I put my trust in Allah. So, devise your plot, you and your partners, and let not your plot be in doubt for you. Then pass your sentence on me and give me no respite."} [Yunus:71]

Nuh (Alayhi Salam) stood firm, endured harm for the sake of his Lord and continued to preach the message of Tawheed. Nuh (Alayhi Salam) disbelieved in the Tawagheet of his time. The followers of Nuh (Alayhi Salam) were few in number but that did not deter him from his duty towards Allah. And as is the Sunnah of Allah, the decreed term for the disbelieving nation came, and Allah punished those who disbelieved and rewarded those who believed.

{And We did not destroy any city but that for it was a known decree. No nation will precede its term, nor will they remain thereafter.} [Al-Hijr:4,5]

The people of Nuh were drowned along with his wife. The Sunnah of Allah that does not change.

{And caused the earth to burst with springs, and the waters met for a matter already predestined. We carried him on that 'Ark made' of planks and nails, sailing under Our 'watchful' Eyes—a 'fair' punishment on behalf of the one 'they' denied.} [Al-Qamar:12-14].

To be
Continued...



WHAT IS THE CALL OF THE ISLAMIC STATE?

By: Gharib as-Sururiyyah

All praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of creation. And may the salah and salam [of Allah] be upon our prophet, the noble prophet. He (ta'ala) said, "And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." And He (ta'ala) said, "And verily, We sent to every ummah a messenger [saying]: worship Allah [alone] and stay away from the taghut."

Shaykh Sulayman ibn Sahman (rahimahullah) said, "So inform [them] that all the messengers were sent with [the call] to avoid the taghut. Thus whoever does not avoid it, then he has opposed all of the messengers."

The most important goal of the Islamic State, may Allah aid it, is to spread tawhid and to work by it, demolish shirk and destroy it. It has fought against all types of shirk; starting from the shirk of worship, the shirk in the obedience, and others. It has worked on the spread of tawhid and called for it, demolished shirk and made takfir of the mushrikin, carried out jihad against them, and ruled based on the Shari'ah of Allah. The aim of the Islamic State has been to spread tawhid and warn from shirk by words and deeds. It has worked on distributing the books of the leading scholars of tawhid and their letters, for it published some of the books and letters of Shaykhul-Islam, al-Imam, al-Mujaddid Muhammad ibn 'Abdul-Wahhab (rahimahullah), and the books of the Aimmah ad-Da'wah an-Najdiyyah (rahimahumullah), as well as excerpts from the words of Shaykhul-Islam ibn Taymiyyah (rahimahullah).

It has destroyed the places of shirk and taghut, as each city or town it has entered, places of shirk such as shrines, tombs, and idols were destroyed. And because of that it has been fought by many people, from Arabs and non-Arabs, who claim affiliation to Islam, or from the kuffar asliyyin. The disagreement of the enemies towards the State is based on tawhid, for it has been fought by the Sahwat, the Jews of Jihad, the idol emirate of the Taliban, and the tawaghit only because of tawhid. And because the Islamic State would not abandon tawhid, the spread of it, and the destruction of shirk and the defeat its people; not even by an inch, even if it angers the entire world.

the worship of Allah, being harsh in that, making enemies based upon it, and pronouncing takfir of those who practice it. Yes, this is the manhaj of the Islamic State, which is the foundation of Islam and its principle, and therefore, it has been fought by the people of shirk and idols; whether the shirk of worship or the shirk of obedience. They fought it, attacked it with all their might, and incited the people to fight it. And this is the origin of the dispute and the basis of the conflict between the Islamic State and its warring sects. Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Atiq an-Najdi (rahimahullah) said, "O slaves of Allah, where are your minds? The dispute between us and them is not about salah, rather, it is about the establishment of tawhid and ordering [the people] with it, and openly censuring and rejecting shirk."



So reflect upon the words of Shaykh al-'Adnani (rahimahullah), in that the Islamic State commands the worship of Allah alone and declares takfir of whoever leaves it. It warns from shirk and takes as an enemy those who practice it and declares takfir of them. And because of this, the enemies have waged war and fought against it. And that is the foundation of Islam and its principle. Shaykhul-Islam, al-Imam, al-Mujaddid Muhammad ibn 'Abdil-Wahhab (rahimahullah) said, The foundation of Islam and its principle is based on two matters: The first: the command to the worship of Allah, alone without partner, inciting to it, allying based upon it, and pronouncing takfir of those who leave it. The second: warning people against shirk in

You are witnessing the harsh animosity of the idol emirate of Taliban and those who pledged bay'ah to it from the Jews of jihad, the Sahwat, and the tawaghit against the Islamic State because the Islamic State has aided tawhid and pronounced takfir against the mushrikin and fought them. This by itself is a great victory by the Islamic State: the spread of tawhid so that people know it and have it clarified to them, and waging jihad and declaring the kufr of the mushrikin. May Allah reward it with good and support it in every part of the world. He (ta'ala) said, "But those who have avoided taghut, lest they worship it, and turned back to Allah – for them are good tidings." Shaykh 'Abdur-Rahman ibn as-Sa'di (rahimahullah) said: "The good tidings are going to be awarded for

them in this life by goodly praise, righteous dreams, and divine care from Allah, in which they see through it that He wants to honor them in this life and in the Hereafter. And the good tidings are going to be awarded for them in the Hereafter once they die, in the grave and on [the Day of] Resurrection. The final good tiding is going to be awarded for them when Allah is going to be eternally pleased with them and overwhelm them with His blessings and His peace in Jannah." Shaykh Sulayman ibn Sahman (rahimahullah) said, "What is meant by avoid it [in the ayah] means to hate it, to have animosity towards it in the heart, curse it with the tongue, remove it with the hand when able, and to abandon it. Therefore, whoever calls for the abandoning of the taghut, yet did not do that is not truthful."



So, O Muslim, this is the call of the Islamic State. This is its manhaj. And here is its jihad and fighting against its enemies to know the reality of this call. O Allah, honor Islam and give victory to the Islamic State.

Ramadan

The blessed month of conquests and worship



Ramadan has come full of blessings, mercy and forgiveness, to purify our hearts and souls. So, stand up and dust off, O Muwahhideen! Strengthen your resolve and strive! Compete to be among the foremost, among His Awliya, those who sacrifice everything for His Sake to gain His Love. To make His Words the Most High.

Allah's messenger ﷺ said, "When the month of Ramadan starts, the gates of heaven are opened and the gates of hell are closed and the devils are chained." [Sahih Al Bukhari]

The wise one would not let such a virtuous time pass by while he is heedless, rather one should welcome it by leaving off sins and evil actions and working towards attaining the pleasure of Allah. Ramadan comes with stupendous opportunities to mix up various good deeds together, in order to please Allah more. So, in this month of harvest, the believers should think of ways to exert themselves more in seeking the Face of our Lord in every way possible, making the most of these blessed days. Fasting, praying, reciting Qur'an, jihad in the way of Allah, all of these actions are worthy of a lot of 'ajr, however, them being done in Ramadan, doubles the reward by multifold, thus earning His Pleasure more.

FASTING: A PILLAR OF ISLAM

﴿O you who believe, fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become Al Muttaqoon.﴾ [Al Baqarah: 183] *Fasting is one of the greatest acts of worship and one of the pillars of Islam. It is an armor against evil. The rewards of the one who fasts, seeking the pleasure of Allah, is not known to anyone except Allah. It is mentioned in the Sahihayn, that Abu Huraira رضي الله عنه narrates from the Prophet ﷺ: Allah said: “Every deed of the son of Adam is for him except fasting. It is for Me and I shall reward for it...” Fasting is a means of expiation and forgiveness from Allah.*

Allah's messenger ﷺ said, “Whoever observes fasts during the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith, and hoping to attain Allah's rewards, then all his past sins will be forgiven.” [Sahih Al Bukhari] It is also proven in Sahih Muslim that the Prophet ﷺ said: “The five daily prayers, from one Jumu'ah to the next and from one Ramadan to the next are expiation for (sins committed) in between, so long as you avoid major sins.”

REMEMBRANCE OF ALLAH

Among the most honorable deed to do in this season of harvest is the remembrance of Allah. It is mentioned in Al-Waab As-Sayyib, “The best of those who do any action are those who remember Allah the most whilst performing it. The best of those who fast are those who remember Allah the most whilst fasting. The best of those who give charity are those who remember Allah the most....” Our Rabb said in Al Baqarah, verse 152 (Therefore, remember Me (by praying, glorifying, etc.). I will remember you, and be grateful to Me (for My countless Favors on you) and never be ungrateful to Me.﴾

Malik bin Dinar رحمه الله said: “A sign of having love for Allah is (one's) constant remembrance of Him, because whoever loves a thing will remember it a lot.” [Shu'ab Al-Eemaan 1/388]

What bigger concern should we have than trying to gain the love of the Lord whom we claim to worship? Also, should we not be loving the Lord whom we claim to submit to?



QUR'AN: THE GREATEST FORM OF DHIKR

Indeed, the greatest acts of remembrance of Allah is the recitation of Qur'an as it is His Speech. Ramadan is the month of Qur'an and it is from the greatest actions to engage in its recitation, striving hard and being keen in its completion.

Imam Ash-Shatibi said in his poem on Qira'at: He whose tongue is constantly busy with Qur'an; He will get the best of Dhikr's reward in full.” Moreover, the virtue of its recitation is even greater in Ramadan, for it is the month of Qur'an as was revealed to us in Al-Baqarah, verse 185: (The month of Ramadan in which was revealed the Quran, a guidance for mankind and clear proofs for the guidance and the criterion (between right and wrong)) In fact, it is mustahhab to read a great deal of Qur'an in Ramadan as proven by the fact that Jibril عليه السلام used to meet the prophet ﷺ every night in Ramadan and study the Qur'an with him [Narrated by Al Bukhari and Muslim] Hence, although in general, it is prohibited to read Qur'an in less than three days, momentous opportunities such as Ramadan become the exceptions to the rule, as was understood by our righteous predecessors.

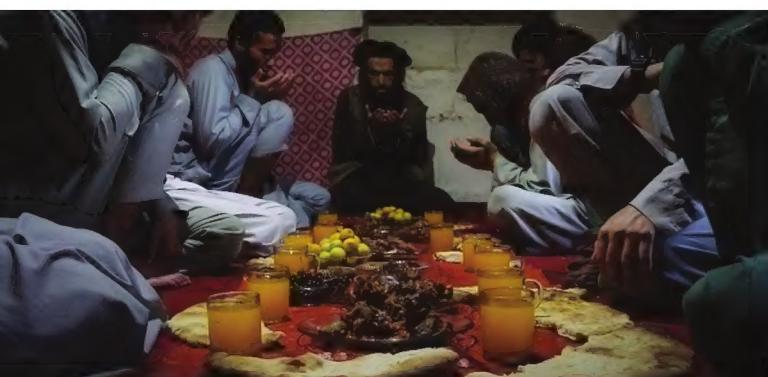




RAMADAN IS THE MONTH OF QIYAM

It is mustahabb to spend the nights of Ramadan in qiyam and remembering Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَ تَعَالَى, and to single out the last ten nights for extra worship and striving, seeking forgiveness and mercy and seeking Laylat al-Qadr which is better than a thousand months.

It is mentioned in both Bukhari and Muslim from the hadith of Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه that the Prophet ﷺ said: "Whoever spends the nights of Ramadan in prayer out of sincere faith and hoping for a reward from Allah, then all his previous sins will be forgiven."



RAMADAN IS A MONTH OF GENEROSITY

Likewise increasing in spending in the way of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَ تَعَالَى, and giving charity and helping the Muslimeen (freeing the captives, helping widows orphans and families of the imprisoned) are from the best deeds and it is from the guidance of the Prophet of Allah ﷺ.

It is narrated Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه, "The Prophet was ﷺ the most generous of all the people, and he used to reach the peak in generosity in Ramadan when Jibril met him. Jibril used to meet him every night during Ramadan to teach him the Qur'an. Allah's messenger ﷺ was the most generous person, even more

generous than the strong uncontrollable wind (in readiness and haste to do charitable deeds)." [Sahih Al Bukhari]

In part of his commentary on this hadeeth, Ibn Hajar al-Asqalaani wrote: And "the blowing wind" – meaning: in his hastening to be generous he was swifter than the wind. And the word choice of "blowing wind" indicates the persistence of its blowing with rahmah (mercy, kindness) and the broad impact of the benefit of his generosity, just as the wind of this type of strong blowing wind encompasses all of whatever it reaches.

(The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the Way of Allah, is as the likeness of a grain (of corn); it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. Allah gives manifold increase to whom He pleases. And Allah is All-Sufficient for His creatures' needs, All-Knower.) [Al Baqarah: 261]

Ibn Kathir in his tafsir, reports that Makhul said that the Ayah means, "Spending on Jihad, on horse stalls, weapons and so forth."

Imam Ahmad recorded that Abu Mas'ud said that a man once gave away a camel, with its bridle on, in the cause of Allah and the Messenger of Allah said, "On the Day of Resurrection, you will have seven hundred camels with their bridles."

Muslim and An-Nasa'i also recorded this Hadith, and Muslim's narration reads, "A man brought a camel with its bridle on and said, 'O Messenger of Allah! This is in the sake of Allah.' The Messenger said, (You will earn seven hundred camels as reward for it on the Day of Resurrection.)

Like the example of Rasulullah ﷺ let your sadaqah be like the free blowing wind. Let it reach the mujaahideen, the prisoners and their families and the widows and orphans.

When the month of Ramadan began, Imam Az-Zuhri Rahimahullah used to say "Indeed it is recitation of Qur'an and feeding of the people." (Mentioned in Lataaif al Ma'arif)

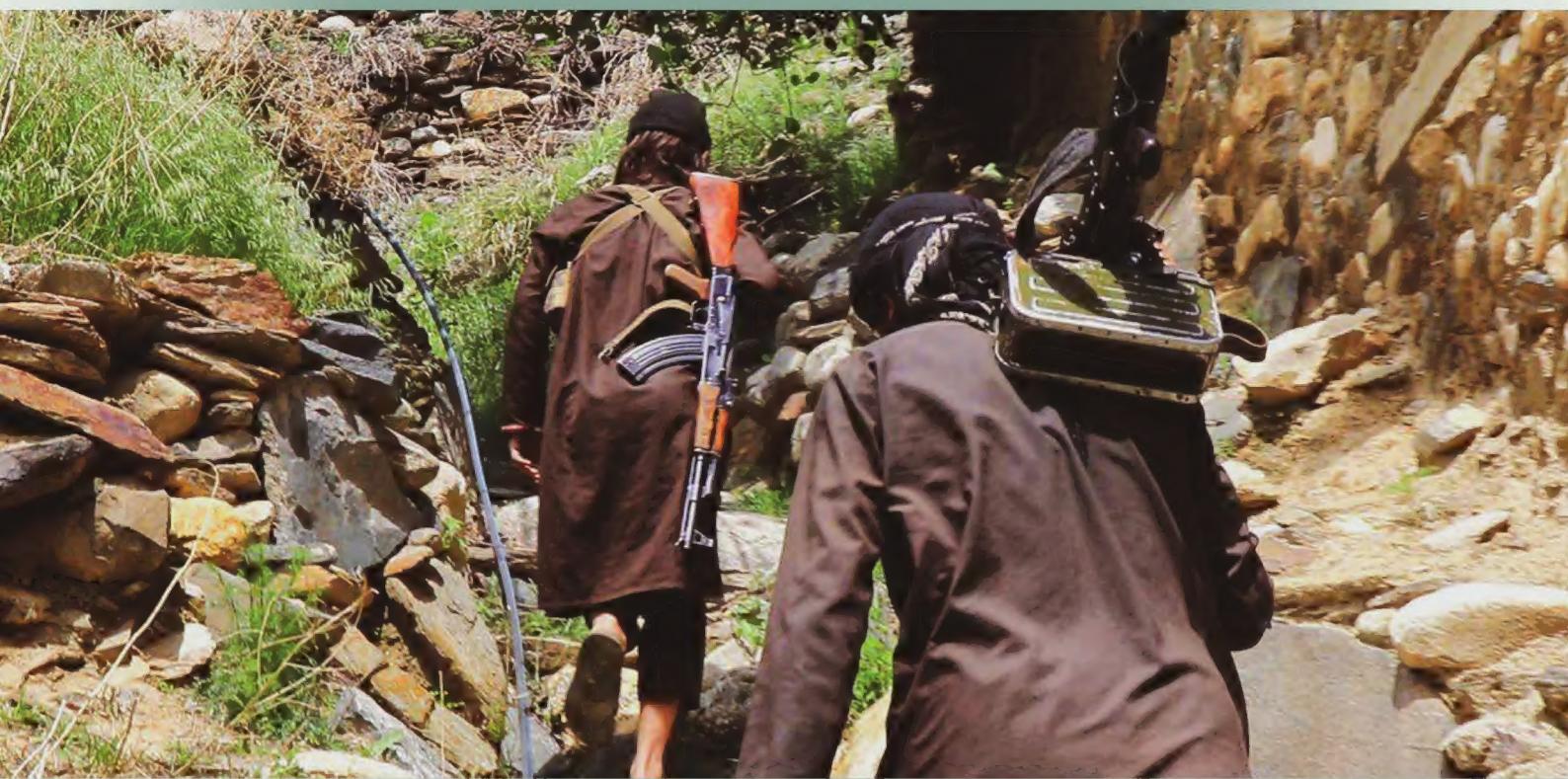
(And they give food, in spite of their love for it (or for the love of Him), to Miskin (poor), the orphan, and the captive.) [Al Insan: 8]

Abu Huraira رضي الله عنه reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "One who lends effort to the widows and the poor is like one waging jihad in the way of Allah, or one who regularly prays at night and fasts during the day." [Sahih al-Bukhaari 5353, Sahih Muslim 2982]

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "None gives charity from what is good, for Allah only accepts what is good, except that the Merciful takes it with his right hand. Even if it is a date, it is nurtured in the hand of the Merciful until it becomes greater than a mountain, just as one of you nurtures his young horse or camel." [Source: Sahih Muslim]



A MONTH OF JIHAD, CONQUESTS & VICTORIES



"And there is no deed in this virtuous month or in any other month better than jihad in the path of Allah, so take advantage of this opportunity and walk the path of your righteous predecessors. Support the religion of Allah through jihad in the path of Allah. Go forth, O mujahideen, in the path of Allah."

[Ash Shaykh Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi رحمه الله]



..... They suffer neither thirst nor fatigue, nor hunger in the Cause of Allah, nor they take any step to raise the anger of disbelievers nor inflict any injury upon an enemy but is written to their credit as a deed of righteousness. Surely, Allah wastes not the reward of the Muhsinun. Nor do they spend anything (in Allah's Cause) - small or great - nor cross a valley, but is written to their credit, that Allah may recompense them with the best of what they used to do (i.e. Allah will reward their good deeds according to the reward of their best deeds which they did in the most perfect manner).}

[At-Tawbah: 120 & 121]

Narrated Abu Huraira: A man came to Allah's Messenger ﷺ and said, "Instruct me as to such a deed as equals Jihad (in reward)." He replied, "I do not find such a deed." Then he added, "Can you, while the Muslim fighter is in the battle-field, enter your mosque to perform prayers without cease and fast and never break your fast?" The man said, "But who can do that?" Abu-Huraira added, "The Mujahid is rewarded even for the footsteps of his horse while it wanders about (for grazing) tied in a long rope."

[Sahih al-Bukhari]

After stating the previously mentioned hadith, Imam Ibn Nuhas writes: If the ones with high aspirations, those who had their rewards multiplied because of their companionship of the Messenger of Allah; if they cannot find anything equivalent to Jihad, then how can we be at ease with lower deeds? How can we settle for other deeds when even then we might have them mixed with insincerity and shortcomings? [Mashari al-Ashwaq ila Masari al-Ushaaq]

Narrated Abu Sa`id: I heard the Prophet ﷺ saying, "Indeed, anyone who fasts for one day for Allah's Pleasure, Allah will keep his face away from the (Hell) fire for (a distance covered by a journey of) seventy years."

[This Hadith was recorded by Imam Bukhari in his Sahih, book 56 (Fighting for the cause of Allah), under chapter 36, titled: The superiority of observing saum in Allah's Cause]

Narrated Abu Huraira: I heard Allah's Messenger ﷺ saying, "The example of a Mujahid in Allah's Cause - and Allah knows better who really strives in His Cause - is like a person who fasts and prays continuously. Allah guarantees that He will admit the Mujahid in His Cause into Paradise if he is killed, otherwise He will return him to his home safely with rewards and war booty."

[Sahih al-Bukhari]

I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) say: Ribat for a day and a night is better (in point of reward) than fasting for a whole month and standing in prayer every night. If a person dies (while, performing this duty), the rewards of the deeds he used to do would continue and his provisions would continue and he would be spared from the torture of the grave. [Sahih Muslim, Chapter: The virtue of guarding the frontier in the cause of Allah] [سبحانه و تعالى]

Imam Ibn Nuhas in his book Mashari al-Ashwaq ila Masari al-Ushaaq, writes under the chapter: References that the sleep of the mujahid is better than the praying of the night and fasting of the day of others

Abu Hurairah asked, "Can anyone of you pray continuously without rest and fast continuously without a break?" They said, "O Abu Hurairah, who could do that!" He said, "I swear in the name of Whom my soul is in His hands - the sleep of the Mujahid is better than that!" [Ibn al Mubarak]

Abu Hurairah asked, "Can anyone of you pray continuously without rest and fast continuously without a break?" They said, "O Abu Hurairah, who could do that!" He said, "I swear in the name of Whom my soul is in His hands - the sleep of the Mujahid is better than that!" [Ibn al Mubarak]

If this is the status of their sleep, then what about their prayers? This is what the competitors should compete for and this is what others should cry for missing.

Since the decisive battle of Badr (2 years after Hijrah), and the Conquest of Makkah (in the 8th year of Hijrah) and all through out history till today, Ramadan is known to blow winds of victory for the muslimeen. For this reason, the commanders of the Islamic State is known to set it soldiers out on expeditions and campaigns especially in these days, following in the footsteps of our very first commander and Amir 



"So, hold onto martyrdom in this honorable month, O Mujahid! Lest you think it is a worthless side step, rather it is a treasure, none attains but the one with great favor and it is a medal of honour, none gains it but the one who is raised (in front of his Lord) to a high esteem."

[Ash-Shaykh Abu Hamza al Muhajir رحمه الله]